What is claimed is:

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A method for producing an extended-release composition comprising mixing acarbose with a sustained release matrix to create said composition.

- 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising compressing said mixture to form a tablet.
 - 3. The method of claim 2, wherein said acarbose comprises about 20% to about 40% by weight of the tablet.
- 4. The method of claim 2, wherein said acarbose is present in an amount sufficient to produce the tablet in a range from about 25 mg to about 300 mg of said acarbose.
 - 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the mixing step further utilizes a filler.
 - 6. The method of claim 5, wherein the mixing step further utilizes a glidant.
- 7. The method of claim 6, wherein the mixing step further utilizes a lubricant.
- 8. The method of claim 6, wherein said glidant is selected from the group consisting of colloidal silica and precipitated silica.
- 9. The method of claim 7, wherein said lubricant is selected from the group consisting of sodium lauryl sulfate, sodium stearyl fumarate, and metal stearates.
- 10. The method of claim 7, wherein said lubricant is selected from the group 20 consisting of magnesium stearate, zinc stearate, calcium stearate, and mixtures thereof.
 - 11. The method of claim 1, wherein said sustained release matrix is hydroxypropylmethylcellulose (HPMC).

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- 12. The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of covering said tablet with a coating.
- 13. The method of claim 12, wherein said coating is a cellulose ether-based coating.
- 5 14. The method of claim 12, wherein said coating is a cellulose ether-based coating in combination with ethyl cellulose.

A chemical composition comprising:

acarbose; and

a sustained release matrix.

- 16. The composition of claim 15, wherein said acarbose is about 20% to about 40% by weight of said composition.
- 17. The composition of claim 15, wherein said acarbose is present in an amount of about 25mg to about 300mg.
 - 18. The composition of claim 15, further comprising a filler.
 - 19. The composition of claim 18, further comprising a glidant.
 - 20. The composition of claim 19, further comprising a lubricant.
- 21. The composition of claim 19, wherein said glidant is selected from the group consisting of colloidal silica and precipitated silica.
- 22. The composition of claim 20, wherein said lubricant is selected from the 20 group consisting of sodium lauryl sulfate, sodium stearyl fumarate, and metal stearates.
 - 23. The composition of claim 20, wherein said lubricant is selected from the group consisting of magnesium stearate, zinc stearate, calcium stearate, and mixtures thereof.

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- The composition of claim 15, wherein said composition is covered with a coating.
 - 26. The composition of claim 25, wherein said coating is a cellulose etherbased coating.
 - 27. The composition of claim 25, wherein said coating is a cellulose etherbased coating in combination with ethyl cellulose.
 - 28. A method of treating a patient to stimulate weight loss comprising administering an acarbose formulation to the patient.

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- 29. The method of claim 28, wherein said acarbose formulation comprises acarbose; and a delayed release matrix.
- 30. The method of claim 28, wherein said acarbose formulation comprises acarbose; and a sustained release matrix.
- 31. The method of claim 30, wherein said acarbose is about 20% to about 40% by weight of said composition.
- 20 32. The method of claim 30, wherein said acarbose is present in an amount of about 25mg to about 300mg.
 - 33. The method of claim 30, wherein said acarbose formulation further comprises a filler.

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- 34. The method of claim 33, wherein said acarbose formulation further comprises a glidant.
- 35. The method of claim 34, wherein said acarbose formulation further comprises a lubricant.
- 5 36. The method of claim 34, wherein said glidant is selected from the group consisting of colloidal silica and precipitated silica.
 - 37. The method of claim 35, wherein said lubricant is selected from the group consisting of sodium lauryl sulfate, sodium stearyl fumarate, and metal stearates.
 - 38. The method of claim 35, wherein said lubricant is selected from the group consisting of magnesium stearate, zinc stearate, calcium stearate, and mixtures thereof.
 - 39. The method of claim 30, wherein said sustained release matrix is hydroxypropylmethylcellulose (HPMC).
 - 40. The method of claim 30, wherein said acarbose formulation is covered with a coating.
 - 41. The method of claim 40, wherein said coating is a cellulose ether-based coating.
 - 42. The method of claim 41, wherein said coating is a cellulose ether-based coating in combination with ethyl cellulose.

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